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INFORMATION REPORT

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Revolt in Central Sumatragn ?! 013 11 13 COUNTRY

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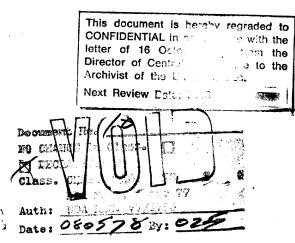
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Refugees from the Batak area of Sumatra, who have excaped to Medan, report that Communist disturbances prevail from Taroeloeng in Central Sumatra to Sibolga and the Padang-Sidempoean area.

- 2. The local Tentera Nasional Indonesia under Lt. Colonel Sitompoel, a marine unit under Captain Hasiboean, and the Governor of Central Sumatra, Dr. Gindo Siregar, were eliminated (sic) by a populace which revolted en masse against the Republic. Other important Republic officials and officers were held forvansom.
- 3. Seditious propaganda, disseminated by Communists who had infiltrated from Malaya and Singapore, is considered responsible for this revolt. The populace of Central Sumatra has been told that the profits from rubber, coffee, and other exports from Sibolga to Singapore have gone to Ramelan Octoyo and other Republic officials, while estate workers have been paid only in worthless Indonesian Republic banknotes. Since early in 1948, thousands of Bataks have been unable to obtain rice and thousands have no clothing.



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